

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 03440 111949Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /067 W  
-----091825 111950Z /46

P 111943Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7996  
INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL  
AMCONSUL QUEBEC  
AMCONSUL TORONTO  
ALL OTHER CANADIAN POSTS POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, CA  
SUBJECT: COMING LIBERAL POLL LIKELY TO PAVE WAY TO FALL  
ELECTIONS

REF: OTTAWA 3365

1. PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE IS REPORTEDLY LAUNCHING  
ANOTHER PRIVATE POLL, CONDUCTED BY GOLDFARB ORGANIZATION,  
TO SAMPLE VOTER MOOD PRIOR TO CALLING--OR NOT CALLING  
NATIONAL ELECTIONS THIS FALL. RESULTS ARE EXPECTED IN  
EARLY AUGUST AND SHOULD HAVE HEAVY INFLUENCE ON TRUDEAU  
DECISION ON AN ELECTION.

2. COMMENT: EMBASSY ESTIMATE IS THAT, UNLESS PRIVATE  
LIBERAL POLL UNCOVERS WHOLLY UNEXPECTED BAD NEWS FOR  
LIBERALS, TRUDEAU WILL CALL ELECTIONS FOR FALL, PROBABLY  
FOR OCTOBER 16 WHEN 8 BYELECTIONS ARE SCHEDULED TO FILL  
VACANT SEATS. LAST TWO GALLUP POLLS HAVE BEEN FAVORABLE  
TO LIBERALS, WHO HAVE MOVED FROM 41 PERCENT APRIL TIE WITH  
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OPPOSITION TORIES TO A 6 PERCENT LEAD IN JUNE POLL. WITH  
HOUSE OF COMMONS IN RECESS, TORIES HAVE LOST AN IMPORTANT  
PLATFORM FROM WHICH TO ATTACK GOVERNMENT. TRUDEAU,  
MOREOVER, WILL HAVE HIGH PUBLIC PROFILE WITH COMING BONN  
SUMMIT AND ATTENDANCE, ALONG WITH THE QUEEN, AT COMMON-  
WEALTH GAMES IN EDMONTON IN EARLY AUGUST. ALL OF THIS  
SUGGESTS THAT LIBERAL POLLING LEAD SHOULD GROW SOMEWHAT

OVER NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS. ALTERNATIVES TO FALL ELECTION ARE NOT ATTRACTIVE FROM LIBERAL POINT OF VIEW. WINTER ELECTION IS UNHEARD OF HERE SINCE VOTER MOOD TENDS TO BECOME AS FROSTY AS THE WEATHER. SPRING ELECTIONS, JUST BEFORE TRUDEAU'S 5 YEAR MANDATE RUNS OUT, PUTS LIBERALS IN A CORNER WITH LITTLE MANEUVERING ROOM.

3. DESPITE LIKELIHOOD OF LIBERALS CALLING ELECTIONS FOR THIS FALL, IT IS BY NO MEANS A SURE THING THAT THEY WILL BE RETURNED WITH A MAJORITY OR EVEN A MINORITY. GALLUP POLLS REVEAL NO GREAT ENTHUSIASM FOR ANY OF THE MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES. LIBERALS ARE SIMPLY NOT AS UNPOPULAR AS TORIES. SIX OR SEVEN POINT POLLING LEAD, MOREOVER, IS NOT A SAFE LEAD ACCORDING TO RECENT ELECTORAL EXPERIENCE. LIBERALS' PRE-CAMPAIGN 15 POINT LEAD IN 1972 DRIED UP TO ALMOST NOTHING ON ELECTION DAY (REFTEL).  
ENDERS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTION FORECASTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2051749  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COMING LIBERAL POLL LIKELY TO PAVE WAY TO FALL ELECTIONS  
**TAGS:** PINT, CA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/b5f2ce77-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
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